

Appendix A

NWS Facility Readiness Inspection/Checklist - Standard Site (This checklist is incomplete for Data Continuity Sites)

In order to ensure the Radiosonde Replacement System (RRS) Deployment Team and Telemetry Receiver System (TRS) installation contractor can successfully perform the required work at standard (non-Data Continuity*) sites, certain NWS facility requirements must be addressed. Also, to ensure that sites may effectively conduct upper-air soundings at the completion of installation activities, allied functions must have been completed. These items include facility access, preparedness, and safety and the installation and/or availability of ancillary utilities and equipment (e.g. RSOIS) and training. The following represents a minimum standard in order for the Deployment Team and TRS installation contractor to install the new system. Please note that all items must be in compliance prior to the delivery of the TRS to the site and commencement of installation of the remaining RRS subsystems. Several items, classed as ***immediate action items***, must be investigated and reported on upon receipt of this checklist so that appropriate equipment and/or actions may be completed, well in advance, of any installation. A response page is attached for those immediate action items. Please mail, FAX, or e-mail the page or information as indicated.

* Sites designated as Data Continuity Sites will have a special checklist provided them.

Facility Preparedness:

1. Inflation Shelter and tracking equipment:

- a. Radome is secure and weather integrity has not been compromised.
- b. Access ladder to radome is securely installed.
- c. All inflation equipment and safety features are operational.
- d. Power distribution is in good condition and compliant with applicable code(s).*
- e. Radome flooring and roof is in good repair and safe.
- f. Shelter is in a high state of order and cleanliness.
- g. NWS-compliant lightning protection is installed and functional.
- h. All ART-1/ART-2 parts designated for return as spares have been removed (prior to Interment activity).
- i. Any/all parts or equipment containing hazardous materials (HAZMAT) have been removed. Note that OSHA, etc. mandated disposal procedures and documentation are the responsibility of site personnel, IAW directions received from NWSHQ. DO NOT ship hazardous materials to the NLSC or NRC.

* Shelter equipment requires nom. 115VAC 60HZ at 20A. Service will be directly connected to the distribution panel within the shelter.

2. Target Antenna

The target antenna has been deleted as a programmatic requirement. However, this item provides certain system performance and troubleshooting capabilities such that its retention and use may well be indicated. As such, it will be the decision of the individual site, and their respective Regional HQ, as to its continued use.

3. Conduit and Interconnect:

- a. Conduits must be in a condition such that the RRS installation contractor can readily install the new fiber-optic cable. The recommended minimum size of the conduit or other cable right-of-way is to be not less than 4 inches in diameter.
- b. The location and routing diagram of the conduit or right-of-way is available

4. Office Site Area:

- a. Installation location, within the office, has been identified and a cable routing/dimension diagram is available.
- b. Appropriate desk space has been designated for the workstation and multiplexer unit.
- c. Single-phase power is available at the above location (two 1-ph. duplex outlets or one quad outlet box, connected to office UPS system).
- d. Access to facility power and lightning protection is available at the above location.
- e. Routing for the RRS workstation- to-AWIPS interface cable is identified.
- f. If required at particular site, an additional dial-up, back-up line is available or on order. This is an NWSHQ/Regional operational decision item.
- g. Confirm that 3-D (minimum 4 satellite) receivability is available at the location within the office that the radiosondes will be base-lined. Test to be performed with a hand-held GPS unit. Results will dictate whether or not GPS repeater will be required.

Note: At this time The RRS Program Office has elected to provide ALL sites with a repeater.

* The contractor will plan for and extend the fiber-optic cable within the NWS office sufficient to connect to the RRS multiplex unit. The multiplex unit must be located at its planned, permanent location at the time of RRS installation.

5. Site Access:

- a. Personnel access to inflation shelter is usable and safe.
- b. Ingress/egress to/from inflation shelter area by a nom. 2-ton, crane, is available.
- c. A clear, 20' X 20', lay down area, adjacent to the inflation shelter is available.
- d. Parking is available for up to two (2) contractor vehicles (light truck or car).
- e. Site located on/adjacent to a designated airdrome YES__ No__ *
- f. Personnel access security procedure(s) available to the contractor. This is mandatory at high-security facilities such as FAA facilities and/or airports.

- g. Each NWS facility to provided an in briefing to Contractor personnel prior to commencement of and site work. Briefing information has been assembled.
- h. Contractor Stop-Work Order Procedure in place. The MIC, or his/her designee, to issue an appropriate stop-work order should a severe weather event occur or observance of un-safe work condition(s) as defined in applicable OSHA regulations and NWS EHB-15.

* If site is on or adjacent to an operational airdrome, an FAA Form 7460 clearance will be required, in advance, prior to deployment of a construction crane. This clearance may require up to 120 days to process. Submission of FAA Form 7460 will be a government responsibility. The contractor shall, however, provide the government with appropriate and timely information regarding the proposed obstruction (read: crane) and proposed dates of activity. It will be the responsibility of the contractor, however, to execute the terms of resultant permit, to include FAA airspace notifications and any required marking or lighting.

6. Program Readiness:

- a. RSOIS system is installed and operational, as applicable to site.
- b. AWIPS interface cable is installed and terminated at RRS RWS office location.
- c. GPS repeater is installed and operational.
- d. PDB is installed and operational.
- e. Electronics maintenance training has been completed by designated site personnel.
- f. Remote operator training course has been completed by all site operations personnel. Completion of this training will facilitate the effectiveness of the planned, on-site supplemental operator training.

Note: Items a thru d will be integrated by RRS Deployment Team, with the assistance of site personnel.

Should any of the above line items not be available and/or not the condition indicated, please provide a descriptive narrative for each, detailing the current condition. For each item requiring remedial action, please provide your recommendation(s) for the required remedy or action, and support required to effect compliance.

Site Facility Readiness Checklist - Operations Immediate Data Items
for

NWS Office located at:_____

Date Submitted:_____

The following data items are required to be provided to the RRS Program Office within 30 days after receipt of the basic Facility Readiness Inspection/Checklist. The information provided below will facilitate the issuance of special equipment to NWS sites and to allow for the timely submission of data to the RRS Program Office and/or the RRS installation contractor, for long lead-time items.

Office Site Area Item f (for Region and HQ information and ordering)

Item g (using portable GPS receiver)

Site Access Item e (long lead time)

Item f (requirements, organizations/contacts, and procedures if needed)

Radome Floor Description: Does radome floor have raised I-beams supporting the existing ART system? If so, photo (or accurate drawing) and associated dimensions are urgently required. A mounting plate will be necessary for those sites with elevated I-beams.

Miscellaneous Data or Recommendation

Any additional important information or recommendation(s) the site or Region wishes the RRS Program Office and/or Contractor to be informed of. Information "for Government use only" should be designated as such.

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